

# **AKA's 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention**

## **Ocean City, Maryland, October 11-16, 2021**

### **Princess Royale Hotel, 9100 Coastal Highway**

### **Ocean City, MD**

AKA'S annual convention is a celebration of kite enthusiasts, artists, and competitors traditionally held in late September or early October. Convention activities include large outdoor and indoor demonstrations, educational workshops, displays, auctions, a fly market, and national level competitions for kitemakers, sport kite flyers, kite fighters, and miniature kite makers, as well as three categories of People's Choice awards. Members of the public are welcome as spectators for the displays and competitions, and are invited to participate in the auction, and the fly market. Convention registration is required to attend meetings and workshops and to participate in competitions or kiteflying events.

- All Convention meetings, indoor flying, and other activities will happen in our host hotel, The Princess Royale.
- Most outdoor flying will happen on the beach directly in front of the hotel.
- Outdoor sport kite competitions will be held on a wider beach at 511 Boardwalk.
- Sport kite free flying will be on the Princess Royale beach with the other kites.

**Online registration for members:** <https://members.kite.org/event-4350932>

**For Princess Royale Hotel reservations: 800-476-9253 (Discount code #6222)**

## **QUESTIONS**

***Is the Convention going to happen?*** The highest priority in making this decision will be the health and safety of all parties concerned. This notice is being written in mid-June and the trends are positive for moving forward. We will be monitoring the recommendations from the CDC and the Maryland health department and base our decisions on their guidelines. At present, it seems possible the Convention will be able to occur in October. At the time of this writing the answer to this question is a resounding YES! Updates will be posted on this website.

***When is a final decision going to be made?*** The AKA contract with the hotel allows us to cancel the event prior to August 15 for a minimal fee. In addition to health and safety issues, the decision will also be made based on how many people register. This year the early-bird registration deadline has been changed to August 1, 2021. Based on the number of paid registrants at that time, the Convention Committee will prepare a report for the Board of Directors' meeting on August 3, 2021, and the Board will decide if the Convention will be held or cancelled. Email notice will then be sent to all registrants.

***Will there be a refund if the event is cancelled due to the coronavirus?*** If the AKA cancels the Convention, all registration fees will be refunded 100%. Separately, if individuals cancel their own registrations for any reason prior to August 12, 2021, then their registration fees will be refunded 100%. From August 13-September 12, 2021, persons cancelling their registrations will receive a 50% refund. After September 12, 2021, there are no refunds for cancellations. (Please note that the AKA has no control over hotel reservations and/or refund policies.)

***Can I register now and pay later?*** Yes. You can register for the Convention today and pay any time before August 1, 2021 to receive the early-bird discount. Unpaid registrations will automatically be suspended after August 1 and will need to be renewed at the non-discounted registration rate.

## **BRIEF CONVENTION SCHEDULE (Subject to change)**

Monday evening, October 11: Welcome Reception  
Tuesday, October 12: Kite Art Exhibit opens, Annual Business Meeting at 7 pm  
Wednesday, October 13: Bag raffle opens, evening: Indoor Kite Competition  
Thursday, October 14: Activities continue  
Friday, October 15: Evening Banquet, Great Kite Auction  
Saturday, October 16: Evening Awards Banquet, activities conclude.

## **Mass Ascensions**

Mass ascensions will be held every day on the beach from 1 to 2 pm at the Princess Royale Hotel featuring kites of similar types. The current schedule is

Tuesday	Rokakkus & Fighters
Wednesday	Cellular & Dimensional Kites
Thursday	Soft & Flexible Kites
Friday	Sport Kites
Saturday	Deltas and Delta Derivatives

## **Special Kite Exhibitions**

Tuesday - 2:00-3:00 - Memorial Fly - All White Kites  
Tuesday - 3:00-4:00 - Kite Making Challenge - Yoshizum Fish Kite  
Tuesday - 4:00-5:00 - Red, White and Blue Display (kites, line laundry, banners, etc.)

Wednesday - 2:00-3:00 - Kites Through the Years - Kites of the 60's  
Wednesday - 3:00-4:00 - Kite Making Challenge - Three-Stick Kites  
Wednesday - 4:00-5:00 - Kites with Moving Parts

Thursday - 2:00-3:00 - Kites Through the Years-Kites of the 70's

Thursday - 3:00-4:00 - Kite Making Challenge - Patchwork Kites

Thursday - 4:00-5:00 - Arches and Trains

Friday - 2:00-3:00 - Kites Through the Years-Kites of the 80's

Friday - 3:00-4:00 - Kite Making Challenge - Ground Display and "Flock of Birds"

Friday - 4:00-5:00 - Workshop Kites - Any Kite made in a workshop setting

Saturday - 2:00-3:00 - Kites Through the Years-Kites of the 90's

Saturday - 3:00-4:00 - People's Choice Entry Open Fly

Saturday - 4:00-5:00 - Eddy - Trash Bag - Paper Bag Sled Kites

## **Competitions**

Tuesday, October 12

- Sport Kite Competition begins
- Fighter Kite competition begins

Wednesday, October 13

- Kitemakers' Competition begins
- Sport Kite Competition begins
- Fighter Kite competition continues

Thursday, October 14

- All competitions continue

## **PARTIAL LIST OF CONVENTION WORKSHOPS**

This is a partial list of the workshops being offered at this year's Convention. For a variety of reasons, workshops may change, be canceled, or replaced without notice. Schedule information will be available online at [www.kite.org](http://www.kite.org) after September 1, 2021. Convention registration is required to be able to attend the workshops.

**Jeff Bland, MAKE AN AEROPOD**

**Ronda Brewer, DEMYSTIFYING KNOTS**

**Jon Burkhardt, WHY WON'T MY #@\*%&! KITE FLY?**

**Paul Dugard, BUBBLES, BUBBLES**

**Lindsey Johnson: ADVANCEMENTS IN 3D PRINTING**

**Chuck Jones, MAKE AND TAKE FIGHTER KITE**

**Paul LaMasters, TUNING YOUR QUAD BRIDLE**

**Mike Mosman, WHAT'S IN YOUR KITE BAG/TOOLBOX?**

**Jose Sainz and Scott Skinner, KITEMAKERS' COMPETITION**

**Phillip Whitaker, A FIRST TIMER'S GUIDE TO THE CONVENTION**

**Sewing Workshops: BRING YOUR OWN SEWING MACHINE**

**Mike Dertien and Craig Rodgerson, AKA CONVENTION ARCH KITE**

**Charlie Dunton, DUNTON-TAYLOR BOX DELTA**

## **MORE DETAILED INFORMATION**

More detailed convention information for AKA members and registrants can be found at [www.members.kite.org/](http://www.members.kite.org/).

**REGISTER TODAY AT:** <https://members.kite.org/event-4350932>

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